

Renovating, refurbish



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STAFF WRITER
ANORA NERVINA

You glance up and down anxiously as your watch ticks the first two minutes.... four minutes.... five minutes of class away. Between those glances you spot the person in back of you, and through your rear view mirror, you swear you can feel hatred for being the next in line. And then FINALLY, there it is...the perfect spot. You throw on your blinker, apply pressure to the breaks, and right when you get the wheel turned just so, and the smile on your face is happily growing to its full proportion, you are slammed with the defeat of a Volkswagen bug resting snugly between two real sized vehicles.

Sound familiar? It should if you have ever tried to park at St. John Fisher College.

Well fret no more. Along with the newly installed fiber upgrades, classrooms, elevating systems, and refurbishments that have been added to the Fisher campus, college officials are eagerly awaiting an approval from the town of Pittsford on an application designed to offer students an 11% increase of parking spaces.

According to Joe Burkart, Special Assistant to the President of Fisher, LeChase Con-

struction C. should begin work as soon as next fall to incorporate the 150 new spaces.

"We want to incorporate a campus loop," explained Burkart. "It would begin at parking lot A, adjacent to Skalny, and exit at Founders Hall. The primary purpose is to create a more pedestrian friendly atmosphere. The current campus roads bisect the resident space with the campus space. We want to make it more unified and appealing to everyone."

If granted, the addition to the current 1,400 parking spaces would be completed by the spring of 2003.

Creating a more comfortable and accessible campus has been the mission for the 120 LeChase construction workers as they near the end of a \$4 million renovation project that began in May of last year. Major renovations that have already been completed include a complete refurbishing of the library's main floor.

"The new tables and computers are great," said senior Emily Gregory. "It's good because the hideously ugly orange carpeting is gone. It's less depressive."

Along with refurbishing the library, Ward Hall has also undergone an interior makeover that includes new carpeting, painting and furniture.

Renovations that are currently in progress include an American Disability Act lift that will be installed next to the northwest staircase in Kearny.

Senior commuter Ed Lohmaier was pleased to hear about the addition, "People with disabilities deserve the rights to access that everyone else has, I think it's a good change."

Renovations also occurred in the Skalny building. Still in progress, additions to the first floor include a connecting classroom to the physics lab, and the transformation of a storage room into a computer lab. A second floor biology resource center will have computers and literature, creating a synchronistic space to work and spend time together.

Along with all new window replacements in Kearny, an entire fiber upgrade has been added throughout the entire campus.

"I think the renovations were needed to maintain the investment in the existing buildings," said Burkart. "Everyone from the Fisher staff was very supportive. We appreciate their patience, and are looking forward to constructing the campus loop."

Email address:
an9223@sjfc.edu

